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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.	10/831,112	Confirmation No.	8305
Applicant	Philippe BENAROCH et al.		
Filed	25 May 2001		
TC/Art Unit	1644		
Examiner	F. Pierre VanderVegt		
Docket No.	48506-00004		
Customer No.	23767		

**REPLY AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed 23 September 2003 (Paper No. 17), Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and reexamination of the present application in light of the following remarks and amendments.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the Listing of Claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 4 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

Conclusion begins on page 8 of this paper.